

First Record of Spurwing Plover for Western Australia.—The first record of the Spurwing Plover (*Lobibyx novae-hollandiae*) for Western Australia was made at Lake Muir on November 11, 1956. Two birds were first seen on the south-west end of the lake and the attention of one of us (W.H.B.) was drawn to them by the differences between the bird and the Banded Plover (*Zonifer tricolor*) observable even at a distance. It proved impossible to procure a specimen but from a distance the lack of the black breast band and the unmarked upper wings could be seen. On consulting the *Handbook of the Birds of Western Australia*, Serventy and Whittell, 2nd ed., 1951, it was realised that these birds were not immature Banded Plover, as one of us (V.N.S.) thought they might be, but Spurwing Plover. The black neck and shoulder patch served to distinguish them from the Masked Plover (*Lobibyx miles*) of the north.

It became imperative to obtain a specimen to make sure of the identification. On our return to the lake two days later we saw three birds together. Two seemed to be paired and the third individual was collected. This bird (W.A. Museum No. A7873) proved to be a female with convoluted oviduct. The iris was yellow, the same colour as the mask. The bill was yellow at the base and horn-coloured at the tip for about half an inch. The legs were purplish pink, brighter above the "knee." The toes were horn coloured. The spur was yellow with a horn tip. The bird weighed 12 oz., using a pharmacist's balance.

Since two days elapsed between seeing the first birds and obtaining the specimen, the visit was not a fleeting one. At all times the birds kept to the margin of the lake or rocks in it and when disturbed made no attempt to fly inland. However, at this point, steep cliffs and thick timber would be a barrier to flight away from the water.

During the October Campout of the R.A.O.U. at Dumbleyung there was mention made of a local report on "lapwings." Possibly this report might have been the result of seeing Spurwing Plovers in this area. Mr. Alex Jones, with whom we discussed the find at Lake Muir, said he had noticed the birds on the lake on previous visits. It would appear, therefore, as though this is not an isolated record but the Spurwing Plover may be a fairly frequent visitor or perhaps a locally established colony.

—V. N. SERVENTY and W. H. BUTLER.

Additional Notes on the Little Shearwater.—A further visit to Eclipse Island from January 26 to February 11, 1956, gave additional opportunities for observing the behaviour of the Little Shearwater (*Puffinus assimilis*) and the following notes supplement those in my previous contribution on this subject (*W.A. Nat.*, 5, 1955: 31).

During earlier visits when the birds had eggs (July 9-24, 1954) or young (September 9-24, 1954) Little Shearwaters were not noisy at night. During this latest visit, some 4 months before